

House Resolution No. 4155

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize Gethsemane Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri, which will commemorate the resplendent occasion of its One Hundredth Anniversary during a special celebration and Anniversary Banquet to be held August 21, 2005, at the Royale Orleans; and

Whereas, Gethsemane Lutheran Church was established in 1905 when a group of Lutherans living in the former Luxemburg and Bismark Heights areas were moved by the Spirit of God to start their own church and school; and

Whereas, after meeting with the Reverend J.J. Bernthal, pastor of St. Trinity Lutheran Church in Carondelet and president of the Western District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, a constitution was accepted and signed by nine charter members on August 20, 1905, and the cornerstone was set on October 29, 1905; and

Whereas, fire struck Gethsemane Lutheran Church and School on November 23, 1920, and a new church on Lemay Ferry Road was dedicated on April 2, 1922, followed by the construction of a parsonage in 1925 and a parish hall in 1954; and

Whereas, throughout its rich history, Gethsemane Lutheran Church has been blessed with the spiritual guidance of several wonderful pastors who include the Reverend Joseph W. Schoech, the Reverend Emil C. Hofius, the Reverend August K. Stenzel, the Reverend Waldemar E. Meyer, the Reverend Wesley A. Bartels, and the Reverend Kenneth W. Sievers; and

Whereas, the members of Gethsemane Lutheran Church have and continue to own businesses in Lemay and continue to take an active part in civic affairs, supporting the Lemay Chamber of Commerce, serving the needs of flood victims during the Flood of 1993, and hosting a week-long Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Youth Servant Event, which have brought more than 200 youth and adults from more than twenty Christian congregations around the country to Lemay to invest more than 4,000 hours in cleanup projects, painting, and minor repairs at the homes of at-risk senior citizens and in mentoring at-risk children at the local daycare center; and

Whereas, the congregation of Gethsemane Lutheran Church continues to find ways to serve the increasingly diverse population in the area and to offer them a place where God's grace and work are ever-present:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty and robust congratulations to Pastor Sievers and to the entire congregation of Gethsemane Lutheran Church upon this very special anniversary event; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

Offered by _____
Representative James W. Lembke
District No. 85

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,

Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 4155, adopted August 9, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker